

THE
TOLEDO MUSEUM
OF
ART

ITS PLANS AND PURPOSES

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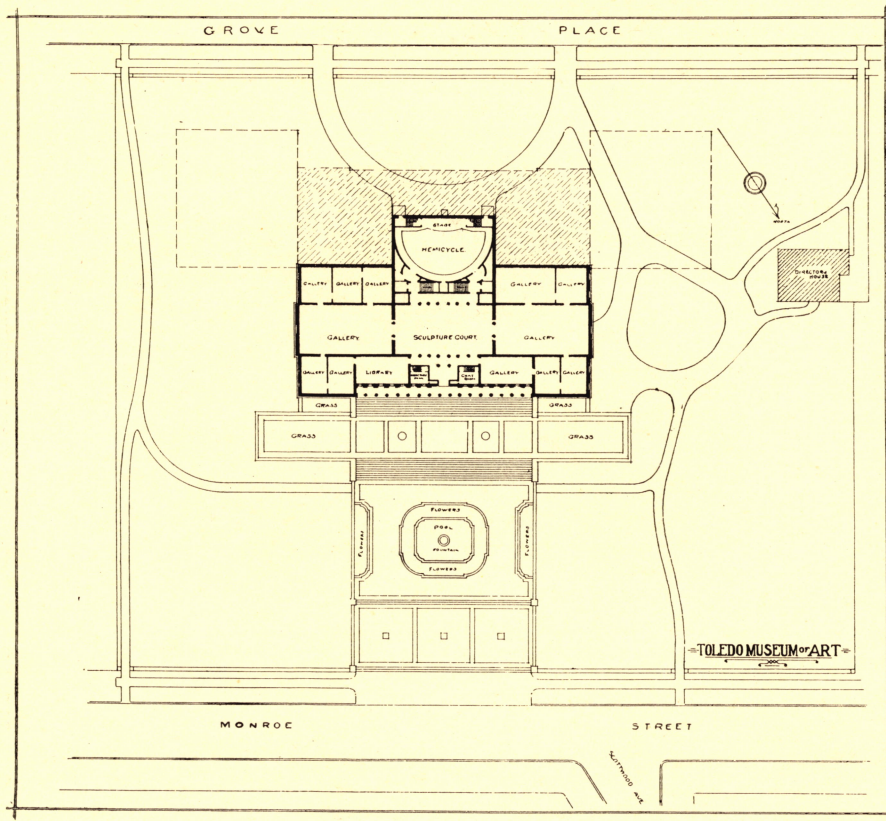
The Toledo Museum of Art



THE NEW MUSEUM BUILDING

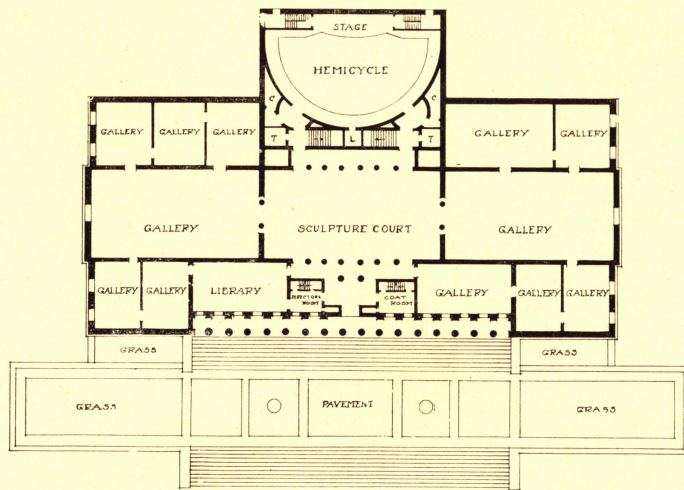
Its plans and purposes with reference
to the new Museum Building

Physical Plant

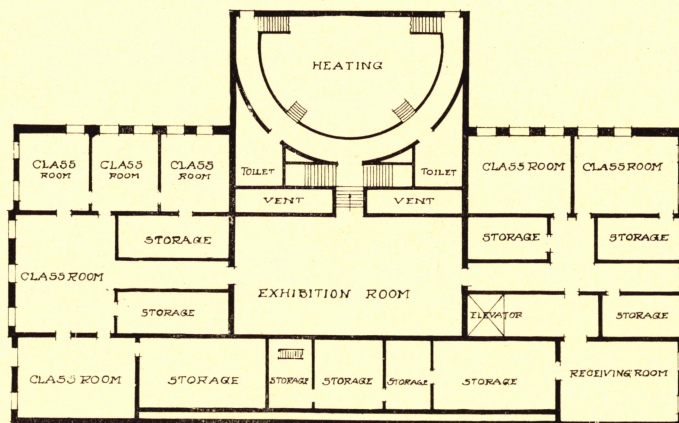


GROUND PLAN

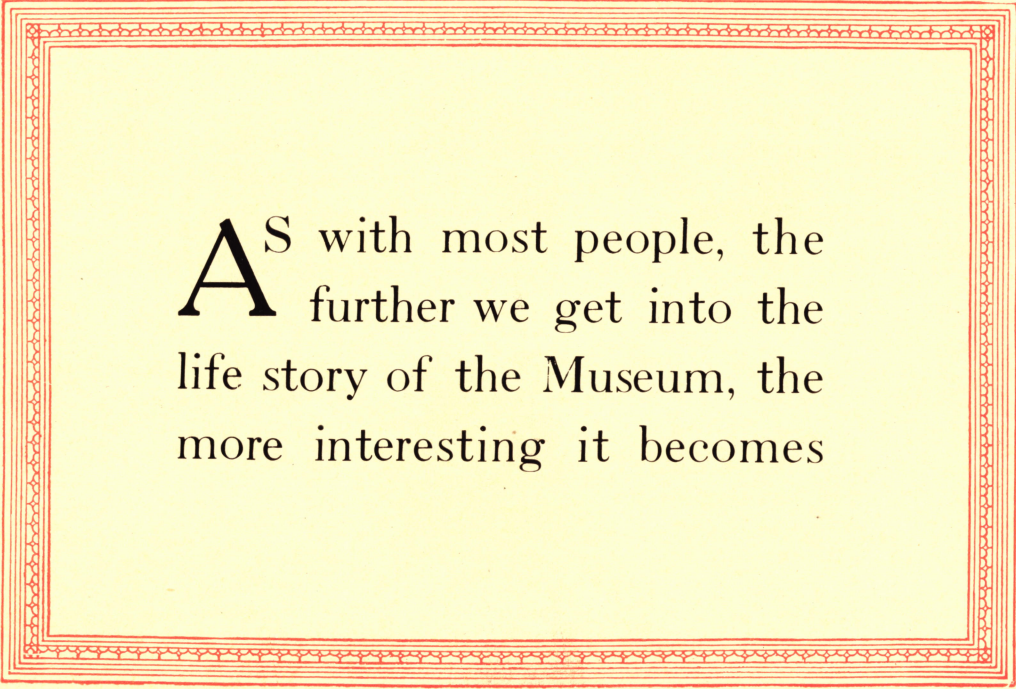
Above are shown the ground and the floor plans of the new Museum. The shaded and enclosed spaces shown in the rear of the building indicate the way in which successive additions may be made from time to time, the first of which will give a marble front on Grove Place



FLOOR PLAN



BASEMENT PLAN



AS with most people, the
further we get into the
life story of the Museum, the
more interesting it becomes

WHILE the Museum aims at satisfying the desires of the most cultivated and traveled people, it is a great mistake to suppose, as perhaps some few still do, that this is the end and aim, or even the principal object of its existence. Besides its own collections, which, for so young a Museum, working without endowment and without aid from taxation, are remarkably good in quality and various in kind—ranging from books on architecture and pottery to Egyptian and American antiques and to excellent examples of the very best modern art work—it has yearly put on exhibition the most recent work of the principal artists and art organizations of America and Europe, so that the citizen of Toledo, who so desires, may become acquainted, without the expense of travel, with the past and present work of the artistic world. Owing to the thoroughly practical as well as diligent work of Director Stevens, these have been put on at very small cost and are in number, it is believed, more than at any other Museum west of New York, except Chicago.

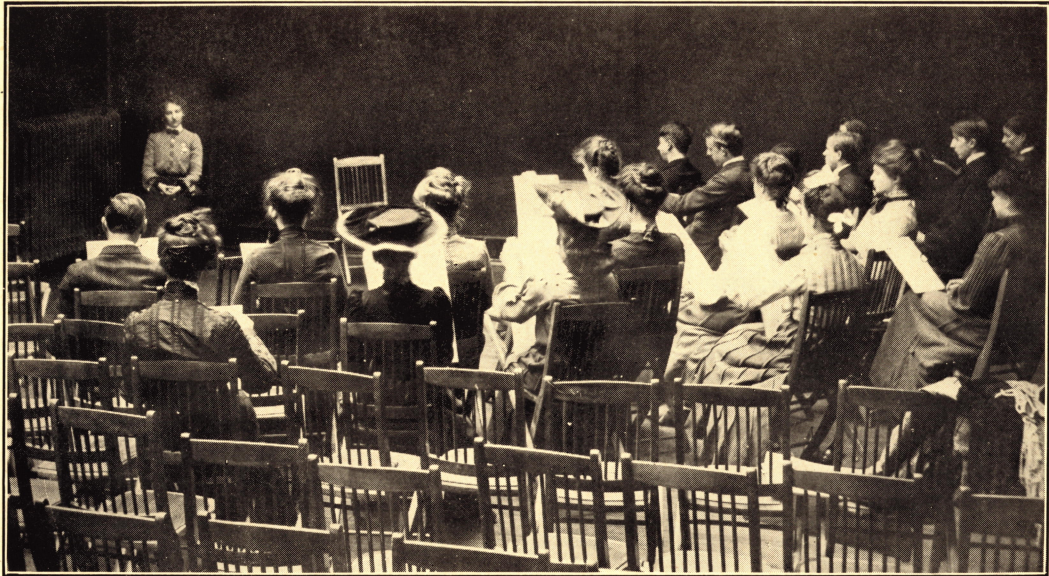
AIMS OF THE MUSEUM

But the Museum has aimed at a much more vital relation to the people of Toledo than merely catering to the æsthetically inclined, although this alone, the main incentive of thousands of tourists to Europe each year, brings to our city a higher level of refinement and culture and is well worth while. Supported, as it is, by popular subscription, it has felt the necessity as well as the policy of appealing to all classes of the community. Few are aware of the wide-spreading character of the work done, which cannot be adequately stated here, but the following will give some little idea of it:

PRACTICAL AIMS

21,000 school children in one year listened to lectures on Egypt in the Egyptian gallery.

Clubs have been admitted at all times free of charge and talks have been given as requested.



ONE OF THE DRAWING CLASSES DISCONTINUED BECAUSE OF LACK OF SPACE



BOYS OF THE ART STUDENTS' GUILD

The exhibition of the work of the Public Schools is held in the Museum, thus making an incentive to better work.

Free drawing classes were maintained at the Museum until the opening of the Toledo School of Art made them unnecessary.

FREE
DRAWING
CLASSES

The Toledo Camera Club has for several years met every month in the library of the Museum. The Director has judged the prints offered in competition and has given a short talk upon their relative merits. This Club has taken medals at most of the exhibitions of this country and in many abroad. In the new Museum the Camera Club will have a room for meetings and exhibitions, a dark room and all facilities for enlarging, where those may work who have hitherto been compelled to depend upon the professional developer.

Special evenings have been set aside for the past six years when the Museum has been open to working girls and their escorts. Refreshments have been served, music and recitations provided and short talks on the exhibitions have been given, with occasional stereopticon travel talks.

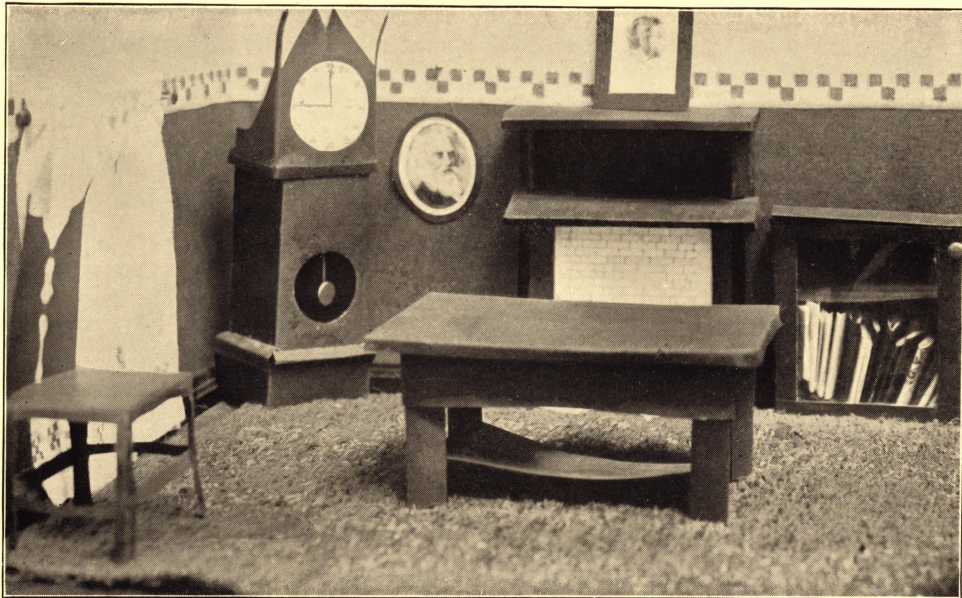
Talks have been given to Mothers' Clubs in all the outlying districts upon various subjects of interest to them, such as The Decoration of the Children's Room, etc.

The library of the Toledo Museum of Art has always been free to everyone. Aid has been given in research work to students and to those preparing papers.

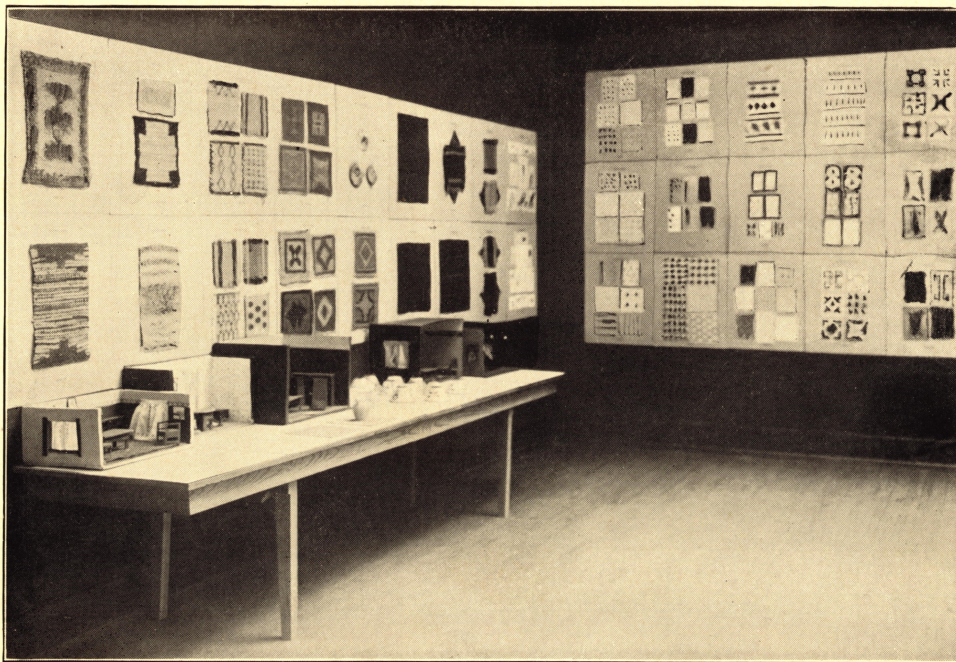
Teachers have been privileged at any time to bring classes or schools to the Art Museum and to arrange with the Director for talks upon any subject desired.

Toledo people have had the privilege of studying world famous paintings, the special exhibitions changing monthly.

The Museum is not a cold storage for works of art, it is a center of activity.



THE MINIATURE ROOM WAS MADE BY THE CHILDREN OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS, THE FURNITURE DESIGNED WITH THE IDEA OF SIMPLICITY AND UTILITY, THE CURTAINS AND RUGS WERE WOVEN BY THE CHILDREN AND WERE EXHIBITED IN THE MUSEUM



VIEW OF A GALLERY OF THE TOLEDO MUSEUM OF ART SHOWING PART OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOL EXHIBIT

Criticism is given to art students at the Museum and several now successful artists, designers and teachers have here received their first instruction and encouragement. Facilities for carrying on the work of an art school will be provided in the new building.

All those manufactories and shops wherein designers are employed have felt the influence of the Toledo Museum of Art, through the study by their intelligent workmen of form and design, both in the permanent exhibitions and in the library of the Museum.

Designers of glass and pottery here have found illustrated books in which to study classic form and historic design, with certain examples in the permanent collection. This branch of art work will be developed with the greater facilities of the new Museum until it is of inestimable value to these industries.

The Museum has for some time been in possession of a fine collection of etchings, engravings, manuscripts and rare books, with no space in which to show them. The new Museum will have rooms designed especially for these exhibits and here printers, engravers, illustrators and publishers will have an unusual opportunity of studying processes.

EXHIBITS OF COLLECTIONS

The colored people of the city have had several special evenings devoted to them when paintings by their own artists, who have attained fame, have been on exhibition. These evenings have been deeply appreciated.

Rare and valuable illustrated works on architecture have at all times been available to the architects and students of the city.

Talks have been given from time to time upon such practical subjects as furniture and decoration. Books for the study of these subjects, in the free reference library, have been frequently consulted, not only by furniture-makers, but also by home-makers.



YOUNG LADIES OF THE NORMAL SCHOOL LISTENING TO A TALK
AT THE TOLEDO MUSEUM OF ART

The churches of the city have had special evenings arranged for them and their societies at the Toledo Museum of Art, when religious subjects of special interest have been on exhibition.

The Museum management has always co-operated with the Young Women's Christian Association in its extension work. The Director and Assistant Director have for several years given talks at the noon hour to the girls in Toledo factories, upon such subjects as Simplicity in House Decoration, The Value of Plants in the Home, The Garden, The Back Yard, Art in Daily Life, Simplicity in Dress, The Bedroom Made into a Home, etc., each given with practical illustrations. Lessons have been given to the girls, showing them how to passe partout cheap but beautiful reproductions of famous paintings.

Talks have been given at regular intervals during the past seven years upon the History of Art and also upon the temporary exhibitions hanging at the time in the galleries. The Toledo Federation of Women's Clubs has taken advantage of this opportunity for study and attends in large numbers.

The talks have been given at a serious disadvantage as the old building has no facilities for using the stereopticon in the daytime. The new building has a beautiful little auditorium which may be made ready in a moment for illustrated talks. This will be especially appreciated by the club women of the city and in the neighboring towns, and by the Normal School, many of whom have been obliged to sit upon the floor in the old building while listening to lectures.

These things virtually led to the building of the New Museum. The old building soon became crowded. The little library room, which also serves as office, became full of books and little room existed for students to examine works on architecture and numerous lines of art manufacture in pottery, furniture and design. The club work reached a point where it

OLD MUSEUM
OUTGROWN



SIDE VIEW (WINTER OF 1910-11)

Photograph of the new building of the Toledo Museum of Art taken by John F. Jones, President of the Toledo Camera Club, Vice-President of the American Federation of Photographic Societies. Mr. Jones has recently been awarded a medal at the International Exhibition of pictorial photography in Budapest.

could be pushed no further for want of room. When exhibitions came, it involved the labor and risk of taking down the Museum's own collection in order to find a place for the temporary ones.

About this time the Museum began to "get a reputation," and it may not be out of place to mention here, that Director Stevens has received several offers to take charge of work in other cities, which were far more attractive in a financial way than anything we could offer in Toledo. But these, with a fine loyalty to his task, his friends and his city, he refused to consider. At the same time it became evident that, if the work of the Museum was to continue to grow and if it was to hold the services of Mr. and Mrs. Stevens, the existing plant was insufficient and a new Museum was necessary.

Under these circumstances Mr. Libbey came to the front and offered a fine site and \$50,000 for the new building, on condition that the people of Toledo raise a like sum. This was done very handsomely and Mr. Libbey then bought additional ground for the site, making the total space 503 x 400 feet, nearly as large as Court House Square. He also diligently investigated Museum Buildings in America and Europe, ascertaining, among other interesting things, that most of the Museums of Europe are housed in old palaces, with little fitness for their present use, and that even the remaining Museum Buildings are often seriously open to criticism. In the course of this investigation he became acquainted with Mr. E. B. Green, of Buffalo, architect of the new and splendid Albright Gallery in that city, who had spent four or five years in systematic studies relating to this building. This led to Mr. Green being engaged, in association with Mr. Harry W. Wachter, of Toledo, to design the new Museum.

BEGINNING
OF
NEW MUSEUM

From the first the building committee, having in mind the growth of our city and the spacious site provided, determined to construct a building on so scientific a plan, with so artistic an appearance, that it would never, within any assignable time, have to be torn down. Accordingly, a style of elevation was

adopted which has come down to us from Greece and which, after 2000 years, still maintains its primacy. The interior was made absolutely fireproof, and the arrangement was such that wings may be added to the building from time to time and a Museum built as large as any in New York or London, when the city shall grow to it, long after those who planned the present structure shall have passed away. We believe this present building will be standing for five hundred years, no doubt lost in a multitude of additions, but still useful and beautiful.

CHANGES IN PLANS

At this point a singular piece of good fortune came. Originally there was no thought of building the Museum of marble, Indiana limestone being supposed to be as expensive as we could afford. But it happened that the financial panic of 1907 was unusually severe in the marble trade and, without any invitation to bid, the building committee received an offer from a Vermont company to furnish a fine grade of white marble at an excess cost of only \$10,000.

Impressed with the permanent character of the new plant, it was felt on all hands that this offer ought to be accepted, if possible, and thus make the building a monumental one and an ornament of the highest character to the city. Accordingly it was so determined, and several other changes involving additional expense were adopted, a firm confidence being felt that the better the object, the grander the result, the more certain would be the necessary public support.

MR. LIBBEY AND THE MUSEUM

A frank statement of Mr. Libbey's position with reference to this matter should now be made. It is his wish, and that of the Trustees, that the Museum should be a Toledo Institution—a People's Museum—and not a Libbey Museum. The suggestion so to name it, while kindly and appreciatively intended, was absolutely declined by Mr. Libbey. After examining the history of "one man Museums" in other cities and finding that they frequently suffer from dry rot, owing to the want of interest on the part of the public, which ends in a loss of interest by the

founder also, the Trustees acquiesced in his conclusion. Appreciating, therefore, the self-abnegation of Mr. Libbey and the true interests of the Museum as a popular, live and permanent institution, it was decided that the utmost Mr. Libbey should do would be to contribute one half of the total cost of the new Museum and the people of Toledo and vicinity were relied upon to give the remainder. Mr. Libbey has accordingly agreed to contribute the further sum of \$25,000 if others will give the balance necessary to complete the new building.

The present condition of the Building Fund is as follows:

Estimated cost of building complete.....	\$233,285.07			
Cost of site donated by Mr. Libbey.....	77,000.00			
Total.....	\$310,285.07			
Original subscription by the public.....	\$ 47,421.24			
Original subscription by Mr. Libbey....	\$50,000.00			
Cost of site donated by Mr. Libbey....	77,000.00			
Subscription by Mr. Libbey, conditioned upon raising \$100,000 by				
March 1st, 1911.....	25,000.00	152,000.00		
Additional subscriptions by others to date.....	65,000.00	264,421.24		
Balance subscriptions necessary to complete building.....	\$ 45,863.83			
Contracts let and other obligations incurred to date.....	\$163,744.08			
Paid on above to date.....	147,712.26			
Balance unpaid on work not finished.....	\$ 21,031.82			
Amount due on loans from Bank.....	42,500.00			
Amount available for interest.....	543.49			
Estimated cost to finish building.....	65,000.00			
Total funds needed.....	\$129,075.31			
Bank balance.....	\$ 2,794.78			
Balance on original subscriptions unpaid.....	750.00			
Mr. Libbey's conditional subscription.....	25,000.00			
Additional subscriptions by others unpaid.....	54,666.70	83,211.48		
Additional subscriptions necessary.....	\$ 45,863.83			

PRESENT
STATE OF THE
BUILDING
FUND



ONE OF THE FREE DRAWING CLASSES AT
THE TOLEDO MUSEUM OF ART



PUBLIC SCHOOL CHILDREN AT THE
TOLEDO MUSEUM OF ART

At the present time, there is wanting to complete the building the sum of \$45,863.83 in addition to all sums heretofore subscribed.

THE
PRESENT
FINANCIAL
SITUATION

It is intended, on the completion of the building, to issue a report to the members, to the Trustees and to the subscribers, which will show how much has been contributed, and by whom, and how the money has been expended. It is hoped also to celebrate the opening of the new Museum in some appropriate way which will be a pleasure to all who participate and which will again remind the people of Toledo and vicinity that this is *their* Museum.

It is no slight thing to add to our municipal equipment so beautiful a building placed in so conspicuous and admirable a setting. The building is already the object of astonished inquiry on the part of all strangers visiting Toledo. It confers distinction on the city to possess the finest Museum building between Pittsburg and Chicago, and gives Toledo an unusual attraction as a place of residence for refined and wealthy people, which will ultimately be reflected in added business activity.

VALUE TO
THE CITY.
ATTRACTION
FOR PLACE OF
RESIDENCE

In this age every branch of industry has its artistic side in Design, and one aim of the Museum will be to accumulate valuable data of this nature and thus establish a vital and valuable relation to our manufacturing interests.

ITS AID TO
OUR
INDUSTRIES

The management also hopes not only to maintain but to increase the general educational value of the Museum. It has already organized and is the headquarters of the Camera Club and of many others and hopes to assist in the organization of many more societies, each having its social, educational and business value.

ITS HELP TO
STUDY CLUBS

AID TO
SCHOOL
CHILDREN

The school children will continue to come to the Museum in ever increasing numbers and will again regularly receive instructive talks by Mr. and Mrs. Stevens, and possibly by others, when there is a room suitable for the purpose. Gunckel's boys, Miss Vaughan's girls, the young people of the Y. M. C. A. and the Y. W. C. A., the members of labor organizations, associations of foreign born citizens, the colored people with their People's Forum and many other societies will be brought into regular and intimate association with the Museum. Indeed, it is expected that it will be in such work as indicated above that the value of the Museum to the city will mainly lie. An institution of aid and pleasure to all classes, it will be not only an educational force but a healing and harmonizing principle in our civic life.

OTHER OR-
GANIZATIONS

We appeal, therefore, to the people of Toledo and Northwestern Ohio to provide the remainder of the money necessary to complete the new Museum. Munificent donations have already been made by many of Toledo's wealthy citizens, which merit the warmest acknowledgment. But we welcome, also, with peculiar appreciation, many small donations and will be glad to receive others showing like interest and zeal. Unless otherwise specified, subscriptions will be payable from time to time as money is due the contractors, but subscribers may, of course, stipulate any time convenient to them. "He gives twice who gives quickly," especially if he sends in his subscription and saves labor for the finance committee which has already sacrificed much time in its work.

The construction will be prosecuted so long as the money holds out, and we hope the remaining sum needed will be subscribed soon, so that there may be no intermission in the work.

The following gentlemen are acting as a committee for the purpose and will be glad to discuss the matter with any one interested:

Irving Squire.....Home Phone, 1213.
Carl B. Spitzer.....Home Phone, 8321.
E. H. Close.....Home Phone, 7878.
I. E. Knisely.....Home Phone, 336.

We cannot better illustrate the character of the work done, or the way it has been received, than by quoting from the "write up" of the Toledo Museum in the Indianapolis *News*:

THE BELL BOY KNEW.

"I came to Toledo yesterday morning and asked one of the colored bell boys at the hotel, 'Where is the Art Museum?'"

"'Well sah, you go down thar to the next street, and then turn west and go five squares, and thar it is.'"

"'A big building?'"

"'No, sah; an old residence.'"

"'I may pass it without knowing it?'"

"'Yes, sah, unless you are looking for the sign. But they're getting ready now to build a big fine one.'"

"'Ever been out there yourself?'"

"'Oh, yes, sah. Our whole church went once to see some pictures a colored man named Henry Tanner painted.'"

"'Ever been back?'"

"'Yes, sah, several times. Our folks go thar right along.'"

"Here were the earmarks of popularization when even the colored people know where the Art Museum is and go to see the pictures."

POPULARITY
OF THE
MUSEUM

SO DID THE NEWSBOY.

"Went down to the next corner and there was a ten-year-old boy selling morning papers."

"'Where is the Art Museum?'"

"'You go right down this street five or six blocks. It's on this side of the street.'"

"'Ever been there?'"

"'Aw, yes, all us school kids go there.'"

"'Who is the man in charge?'"

"'A feller named Stevens and his wife.'"

"'Pretty good gallery?'"

"'They got some swell pictures there and they got a lot of them mummies.'"

"Well, here was popularization again, reaching even the boy on the street corner."



END VIEW—SHOWING COLUMNS

Detail of the building of the Toledo Museum of Art, showing the monolithic
Ionic columns of white marble

